"The admeasurements agree very closely with V. Daubentonii, to which we believe it must in every respect be referred."

A NEW MARSUPIAL ANIMAL.

Perameles Tuckeri, n. s. Head short, conical; ears large, hairy, coloured like the back, with a blackish edge; fur soft, brown, varied with gray hairs, and black tips; sides yellow-brown, beneath yellowish gray, under fur of back lead-coloured; tail as long as the body, tapering, hairy, and coloured like the body at the base, blackish and with rather adpressed hairs for two-thirds of its length. Length of the head $2\frac{1}{4}$, of the body $5\frac{3}{4}$, of tail $5\frac{3}{4}$, of hind foot $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Inhab. Australia. In the collection of Mr. Tucker, the naturalist dealer, after whom I have named it.—JOHN E. GRAY.

A NEW SPECIES OF FOSSIL DOLPHIN.

M. Von Olfers laid before the meeting of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin (Dec. 19, 1839), the fragments of some fossil remains of *Cetaceæ* found in the Prussian states. The most important are the clearly distinguishable remains of the skull of a Dolphin (*Delphis Karstenii*) converted into sandstone, which differs from all hitherto found, and appears to form the transition between D. globiceps and the allied species and the fossil genus Ziphius. It occurred near Bünde in Westphalia. Vertebræ of Balænoptera were also communicated by Prof. Becks; they occurred in a clay bed [Thonlager] between Bocholt and Oeding.

ON THE MINERAL CALLED DYSODIL AS A PRODUCT FROM THE SHELLS OF INFUSORIA. BY C. G. EHRENBERG.

In 1808 M. Cordier in Paris gave this substance the name of Dysodil, as a peculiar species of mineral; it had, however, previously been placed by mineralogists amongst the bituminous substances, and called *foliated mineral pitch* (*blüttriges Erdpech*). As is well known, it is combustible, and in Sicily, where it was first discovered, it is used as peat.

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